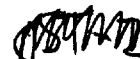


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CITY OF CAMDEN

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OST-1997-2935-57
CORRESPONDENCE

June 12, 2002

Mr. Dennis J. Devany, Chief
EAS & Domestic Analysis Division
Office of Aviation Analysis
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Devany:

In response to your letter of May 28, 2002 soliciting our views of the U.S. Department of Transportation tentatively reselcting Big Sky Airlines to provide subsidized service to El Dorado and six other communities for a new two-year period under the essential air service program, please review our comments below.

The City of Camden and the Camden Regional Airport Commission support the Mesa Air Group proposal on behalf of its subsidiary, Air Midwest with the stipulation that at least one (1) flight daily originate or be included as part of the route from the Camden Regional Airport (Harrell Field) to Dallas/Fort Worth.

This is consistent with our proposal on April 19, 2002 applying for a grant under the Small Community Air Service Development Pilot Program of the Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act of the 21st Century (AIR-21), P.L. 106-181. Senator Blanche L. Lincoln supported this application for the AIR-21 funding, in order to develop passenger service from Camden Regional Airport to support our many defense contractors within a five (5) mile radius of the Camden Regional Airport.

We thank you for the opportunity to express our views on the most important and much needed passenger service for this area.

Sincerely,



Chris Claybaker
Mayor
City of Camden



Wes Marden
Chairman
Camden Regional Airport Commission

Cc: Mr. Kim B. Champney
President and CEO
Big Sky Transportation Co.
Logan International Airport
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Billings, MT 59105

Mr. Charles R. Howell IV
President & CEO
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Mr. Jonathan G. Ornstein
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410 North 44th Street
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